

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 8-25 are now pending. Claims 1-7 have been canceled. Claims 14-25 are new.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctively claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In providing the basis of his rejection, the Examiner states that none of the claims "provide any reaction reagents and/or conditions to carry out the claimed invention in each of the claimed steps." Applicant respectfully traverses.

In order to satisfy 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, all Applicant is required to do is to state with precision the legal boundaries of the patent sought. Recitations of the precise reaction conditions are not necessary to establish those claim boundaries. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this ground of rejection be withdrawn.

The Examiner further rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kingston et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,470,866). In response, Applicant has canceled claims 1-7. Applicant has added new independent claim 14 which contains all the limitations of the original claims 1 and 4. Applicant further added dependent claims 15 and 16 which correspond to the original claims 2 and 3. In a similar manner, new independent claims 17, 20 and 23 have also been added, which contain all the limitations of claims 5, 6, and 7, respectively. Because the original claims 5-7 were free of art rejection, Applicant submits that new claims 17-25 are patentable over the cited art. In view of the above amendment, Applicant therefore respectfully requests this ground of rejection be withdrawn.

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Application No. 10/790,622
Reply to Office Action dated December 29, 2004

All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable.
Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
SEED Intellectual Property Law Group PLLC



Hai Han, Ph.D.
Registration No. 54,150

HH:lhk

701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 6300
Seattle, Washington 98104-7092
Phone: (206) 622-4900
Fax: (206) 682-6031

575340_1.DOC